Ministry of Foreign Affairs led the respective delegations.

The Joint Commission recognised the importance of the state visit to India in 1992 of His Highness Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and the instructions laid down regarding the directions of future cooperation between the UAE and India during his discussions with the Prime Minister of India. The Joint Commission noted that there had been substantial implementation of the relevant follow up action.

The Cultural Exchange Programme, 1993—95 and an Agreement to counter trafficking in Narcotic Drugs were initialled by the two sides. These two documents will be signed shortly at the appropriate level. Other agreements discussed were an Extradition Treaty and a Bilateral Investment Guarantee Agreement, which will require further technical examination. Both sides expressed their desire to conclude these agreements. The Avoidance of Double Tax Agreement is ready for ratification.

Potential investors from the UAE were urged to make direct contacts with the relevant Indian parties concerned with concrete investment opportunities in the refinery, petrochemical, tourism and portfolio management sectors. In these fields as also in the contemplated investment in a hospital-cum-hotel project, the UAE was invited to send delegations to India for further discussions.

Both sides viewed with satisfaction the recent visit to the UAE of the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India and his invitation to the UAE Central Bank Governor to visit India to further develop closer issues in the banking sector. The UAE side stated that delegations from the Federal Chambers of Commerce and Industry of the UAE and the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry are expected to visit India shortly, as also a delegation from the UAE Health Ministry to make contacts in Indian pharmaceutical industry.

Both sides noted that the trade figures for 1991-92, which are the latest available, show a significant increase in bilateral turnover.

India conveyed its intention to purchase oil from the UAE in enhanced quantity during 1993-94.

The UAE side conveyed interest in deepening co-operation in the industrial, agricultural and planning fields. Some proposals were made regarding provision of consultancy services, feasibility studies, technical assistance and training facilities. India agreed to respond favourably to these suggestions.

Further co-operation in Posts and Telecommunications would be discussed between India and the GCC in a meeting to be held shortly.

Labour, Consular and Manpower questions were discussed in some detail, along with specific cases which require resolution. The UAE side expressed willingness to consider these issues sympathetically. Both sides agreed to strengthen the co-operation in matters raised through the channel of Interpol.

The Seventh meeting of the Joint Commission will take place in New Delhi this following winter.

During discussions at the Foreign Ministry, the invitation extended by the Government of India to His Highness Shaikh Hamdan bin Zayed al Nahayan to make an official visit to India was renewed. The invitation for a round of Foreign Office consultations at Delhi was also extended.

Extradition of Terrorists

3880. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have offered signing extradition treaty with Arab Countries as part of its drive against international terrorism;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of the Arab Countries thereto;

(c) whether Government also proposes to sign an extradition treaty with Nepal in view of open borders;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what action Government propose to take for the extradition of terrorists and criminals who fled to Nepal after committing crimes in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) A bilateral extradition treaty has been proposed to the UAE. There is no proposal under discussion with any other Arab country.

(b) The draft text is under consideration of Government of the UAE. Once they communi-

cate their comments, it will require bilateral negotiations. Certain international conventions, to which India and several Arab States belong, provide for extradition for crimes such as hijacking and sabotage of civilian air craft hostage taking, offences against internationally protected persons and illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs.

(c) Government of India entered into a treaty of extradition with Government of Nepal in October, 1953.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Government of India is committed to fighting terrorism with the cooperation of friendly countries including Nepal.

हज की यात्रा पर जाने वाले व्यक्तियों की संख्या

3881. **श्री सुशील कुमार संभाजीराव शिन्दे** : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कितने यात्री हज की यात्रा पर गये;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इस वर्ष हज यात्रियों के लिए पर्याप्त वायुयान उपलब्ध नहीं कराये गये थे;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) सरकार भविष्य में हज यात्रियों की सुविधा हेतु क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर. एल. भाटिया) : (क) गत तीन वर्षों में, हज समिति के जरिये की गई व्यवस्थाओं के अधीन भारत से हज के लिए गए यात्रियों की संख्या नीचे दी गई है;

वर्ष	जहाज द्वारा	वायुयान द्वारा	जोड़
1991	4,528	18,790	23,318
1992	4,723	19,424	24,217
1993	4,562	20,643	25,205

(ख) सऊदी अरब जाने-आने के लिए हज यात्रियों की यात्रा के लिए पर्याप्त संख्या में वायुयान उपलब्ध कराए गए थे।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) सरकार की यह कोशिश रही है कि वह इस तीर्थयात्रा को सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिए सहायता देना जारी रखें और हज यात्रियों को दी जाने वाली सेवाओं को बेहतर बनाती रहे; जिनमें निम्नलिखित सहायता शामिल है :— मक्का/मदीना में आवास किराए पर लेने के लिए हज समिति को सहायता देना तथा हज यात्रियों को हज के लिए ले जाने और वहां से लाने के लिए यानों को किराए पर लेना; एवं यात्रियों के मार्गनिर्देशन के लिए जद्दाह स्थित भारत के प्रधान कौंसलावास में अतिरिक्त प्रशासनिक कर्मचारी भेजना, जिनमें हज अधिकारी तथा हज सहायक भी शामिल हैं। सरकार हज यात्रियों की सुविधा के लिए चिकित्सा दल तथा दवाईयां भी भेजती है। इस वर्ष से प्रशासनिक कर्मचारियों तथा चिकित्सा दल कार्मिकों की संख्या बढ़ा दी गई है, चिकित्सा आपूर्ति में भी वृद्धि की गई है।

Reopening of All Trade Route to China from Kalimpong

3882. **SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE** : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to reopen old trade route to China from Kalimpong;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) to (c) The Government are looking into the possibility of opening additional trade routes for border trade with China, including via Nathula with Kalimpong serving as a trade mart. The matter is also being discussed with the Chinese Government.

Ministers Visit—China

3883. **DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI** :
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Ministers who have visited China from April to July, 1993;

(b) the details of specific points each one of them discussed with the Chinese Government;

(c) the reaction of the Chinese Government on each of the points raised by Indian Ministers;

(d) the points raised by Chinese Government with each of the visiting Indian Minister and their reaction; and

(e) whether the settlement of border issues came up for discussion, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE